

TABLES

Premier League Division 1

1st Grade									
Team	P	W	D	N	L	F	A	Pts	
Belconnen United	5	4	1	0	0	22	4	14	
Monaro	5	3	2	0	0	19	5	13	
Weston Creek	5	3	2	0	0	12	5	13	
Capital City Suns	5	3	1	0	1	13	5	11	
Juventus	5	2	1	0	2	10	11	8	
Canberra Olympic	5	2	0	1	2	6	6	7	
Canberra Deakin	5	1	1	1	2	5	5	6	
Uni of Canberra	5	1	0	0	4	9	14	3	
Burns Club	5	1	0	0	4	4	21	3	
Queanbeyan City	5	0	0	0	5	6	30	0	

Under 23s

Team	P	W	D	N	L	F	A	Pts	
Belconnen United	5	4	1	0	0	38	8	14	
Monaro	5	4	1	0	0	28	5	14	
Uni of Canberra	5	3	1	0	1	11	7	11	
Weston Creek	5	2	2	0	1	10	6	10	
Canberra Olympic	5	2	2	0	1	8	7	10	
Juventus	5	2	0	1	2	27	12	7	
Capital City Suns	5	2	0	0	3	24	17	6	
Burns Club	5	1	1	0	3	5	7	5	
Canberra Deakin	5	0	0	1	4	5	12	1	
Queanbeyan City	5	0	0	0	4	1	76	0	

Under 19s

Team	P	W	D	N	L	F	A	Pts	
Belconnen United	5	5	0	0	0	20	5	15	
Uni of Canberra	5	4	1	0	0	19	5	14	
Juventus	5	4	0	0	1	20	4	12	
Monaro	5	3	0	0	2	14	11	9	
Canberra Deakin	5	2	1	0	2	11	16	8	
Weston Creek	5	2	0	0	3	14	13	6	
Capital City Suns	5	1	1	0	3	5	16	5	
Burns Club	5	1	0	0	4	6	11	3	
Canberra Olympic	5	1	0	0	4	4	19	3	
Queanbeyan City	5	0	1	0	4	5	18	2	

TABLES

Premier League Division 2

1st Grade									
Team	P	W	D	N	L	F	A	Pts	
O'Connor Knights	6	6	0	0	0	15	1	18	
Cooma	6	5	0	0	1	14	9	15	
Tuggeranong Utd	6	4	0	0	2	17	10	12	
ANU	5	2	1	0	2	14	10	8	
Belwest Foxes	5	2	1	0	2	14	12	8	
White Eagles	6	1	1	0	4	6	10	5	
Sabres FC	6	0	1	0	5	5	22	2	
ADFA	4	0	0	0	4	3	13	0	

Reserve Grade

Team	P	W	D	N	L	F	A	Pts	
Tuggeranong Utd	6	5	0	0	1	27	11	15	
O'Connor Knights	6	5	0	0	1	12	5	15	
ANU	5	3	1	0	1	15	8	11	
White Eagles	6	3	1	0	2	11	8	11	
Belwest Foxes	6	3	0	0	3	11	9	9	
ADFA	5	2	0	0	3	11	12	6	
Sabres FC	6	1	0	0	5	8	18	3	
Cooma	6	0	0	0	6	2	26	0	

State League Youth Grade

Team	P	W	D	N	L	F	A	Pts	
Tuggeranong Utd	5	5	0	0	0	18	4	15	
Belconnen Utd	5	4	0	0	1	19	9	12	
Belwest Foxes	5	2	0	0	3	10	13	6	
Southern Spirit	5	2	0	0	3	11	20	6	
Radford	5	1	0	0	4	8	12	3	
Belsouth	5	1	0	0	4	6	14	3	

Canberra Soccer News

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CANBERRA SOCCER NEWS

Issue 5 - 23rd May 1999

EDITORIAL

What an eventful fortnight we have had just recently. The Federation Cup Final last Sunday and supposedly the first leg of the U17 Qualifier between Australia and Bahrain last night.

Yet it is unfortunate that some 'on-the-field' incidents should be included amidst this great time for local soccer.

Two matches, involving the same clubs, highlighted some of the problems we face here in Canberra. One of the big problems, one which I have emphasized on numerous occasions, reared its ugly head once again.

At the Burns v Suns 1st Grade match on the Saturday night, there were insufficient officials for the game. Not only was a spectator asked to take the job, but owing to this the game started late and a few minutes into time added on, the lights went out!

Then the following morning, the U19s and U23s from the same two clubs played their matches, at an un-enclosed oval. CSN have been told that at half-time of the U23's match a scuffle broke out between the two clubs.

It really is a pity as so far the season has commenced very well in relation to player behaviour.

In fact I was remarking to some people just how much I believe the crowds have increased this year from last season. My estimation is around 25%, which many will agree is quite impressive.

We can only hope that this was an isolated incident and that the matter has received the attention it deserves from Soccer Canberra. It is not needed in our game.

Later in the week we find that Queanbeyan City have played an unregistered player and through this person, under an alias, was sent off. He then continued his disguise through to the judiciary.

The player received a 4 year ban from the set of offences he had committed plus an extra 2 for the cover-up. The President of the club was also banned from all soccer until the end of 2000.

It is good to see that Soccer Canberra have put their foot down and supported the referees, especially as one of them was assaulted by the player above.

More news to hand is that a second coach and his club have parted company. Canberra Deakin and Ian Shaw have decided to separate.

Editorial continued on Page 6

TOP OF THE TABLE CLASH ENDS IN DRAW

Weston Creek Royals and Belconnen United played out a hard-fought 1-1 draw at Woden Park yesterday. The result showed how even the competition is near the top of the table.

Weston were without two key players in Martin Lazzari and Manuel Sermano, both injured. Even so, their replacements performed admirably.

Bels relied on their height, both at the back with Jason Dunn and up front with their Ericsson Cup import, Marko Perinovic.

Even so, the Creek took the early lead after only 8 minutes of play. Matthew Stocks cleared the ball from a dangerous situation to Justin Webb.

Webb's long ball into attack found Steve Lazzari on the edge of the box and the Belconnen defence rather flatfooted. With time to look up, Lazzari placed his shot giving Rade Kozanovic, in goal, no chance.

Belconnen should have equalised only a few minutes later after a corner kick was headed down by Perinovic only to see Matt Whyte sky his shot from a few metres out.

They continued the pressure and again had their chance on the quarter hour when a goalmouth scramble saw a number of shots either blocked or cleared off the line.

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Then with 22 minutes on the clock, Luke Larfield was allowed to waltz through the defence and into the penalty area. He followed the run with a pin-point shot past Hassan Adhami to tie up the score.

Belconnen continued to apply the pressure with the rest of the half being played in the Weston Creek half. Yet the Creek, to their credit, were able to soak this up.

The best chance of the remaining minutes came from a Perinovic header that beat Adhami, but not Yoshi Sato who was guarding the line with his life.

After the break, both teams settled down and the chances were rare. Only on the rare occasion was either keeper called into action.

One of these came about when Perinovic set up his striking partner Matt Whyte. The initial shot was smothered well by Adhami, and fortunately for him, his defence was on hand to clear the ball from danger.

With time starting to run out, Belconnen again pushed forward only to see the Weston defence hold out. The final shot of the day fell to Stuart Camara, who from some 30m out sent a line-drive that forced Adhami to tip over for a corner.

Weston coach, Jimmy Bland was pleased with his teams performance stating "we're closing the gap, in football terms, between us and Belconnen."

Football Connection

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"We can stand up and be counted. Our boys showed a lot of character given what they threw at us", Bland said.

Lino Fiorese, on the other hand, was disappointed. "Again we made silly mistakes and errors. Bad finishing let us down today."

"The defence did okay and we were able to create a number of chances, but we just didn't punish them".

UNI FALL TO IMPROVING DEAKIN

At the University of Canberra grounds, the ever improving Canberra Deakin continued their small run of wins by defeating Uni 3-0.

Gaby Exposito scored from the penalty spot whilst Vince Bodo notched a pair.

Deakin coach Ian Shaw felt that this was a great performance, especially after the Wednesday night ordeal. Shaw singled out goalkeeper Pablo Pavez as having another excellent game, but also gave praise to his young players.

One concern for Shaw leading up to next weekend's Federation Cup final is that defender Mladin Rogic may have a broken nose.

Uni coach Rod Lynes said "two bad goals gave ourselves a mountain to climb". Lynes was happier with the second half commitment, but he liked his players to defend much better. One shining light, for the second week in a row was Ross Docherty.

SUNS SHINE IN THE DARK

by Greg Welsh

A question mark hangs over the result of Saturday night's game between the Capital City Suns and Burns Club after the lights went out at Greenway Oval in second-half stoppage time, with the Suns leading 4-0.

Burns are expected to appeal the validity of the match, and although referee Ben Williams blew time a few moments after the lights shut down, they will have a good case for having the game officially abandoned.

If that is the final ruling, the Suns can count themselves rather hard done by to say the least, as they outplayed their opponents all over the park and thoroughly deserved the three points on offer.

A Suns' free-kick just outside the left-hand corner of the penalty box in the 16th minute almost brought up the first goal of the game. Gus Cerro swung in a vicious right-foot shot that smacked against the crossbar, much to the relief of Burns' keeper Matt Melgaard.

Just over 20 minutes later, Burns had their best chance of the half when Greg Lemin's long ball from the back found Scott Hayes in space down the right flank. Despite the acute angle, Hayes' shot was perfectly struck and demanded an excellent save from Suns' keeper Tony Giannasca.

The Suns returned from the break determined to turn their first-half dominance into goals, but when a Cerro free-kick in the 56th minute again found the crossbar, it looked like it may not be the Suns' night.

But the classy forward was finally rewarded in the 66th minute after a delightful one-two with striking partner Tony Lemezina.

At the other end, Giannasca produced another outstanding save to maintain the lead, before three goals inside five minutes seemingly put the game beyond doubt.

Midfielder David Stambolziev found the top left-hand corner of the net twice - the first a neat header from Ilija Prenzoski's cross and the second a well-placed shot from Cerro's deflected corner.

A defensive hand-ball inside the box a minute later gifted Lemezina with the fourth, and for the next ten minutes the game seemed to coast along before darkness enveloped the ground.

Suns coach Bill Dojcinowski said after the game "I don't think we played very well in the first-half, I think we went in a bit too individually up front, and we couldn't put it away. I reckon we should have been 3, 4 or 5 up in the first-half but it didn't happen.

I had a bit of a chat to the boys at half-time. I wanted them to work a little bit more closer together up front ...and it worked dividends."

Dojcinowski heaped praise upon two-goal hero Stambolziev. "Coming from the reserve grade last year, I'm very happy with him," the coach said. "He had a new role tonight, because we are missing three players from our starting line-up."

MONARO TOO GOOD FOR 10-MAN OLYMPIC

by Greg Welsh

Monaro bounced back from a mid-week defeat in the Federation Cup to beat Canberra Olympic 2-0 in their ACT Premier League clash at O'Connor Oval on Sunday.

The game was a tight affair from the outset, and chances were evenly shared in the first half-an-hour. But Monaro gained the upper hand in the 35th minute when Olympic full-back Peter Mazis was sent off after bringing down Lazar Simeonov from behind.

The incident left Olympic temporarily disorganised at the back, and Simeonov meted out full punishment four minutes later as he latched on to a Jimmy Baxter cutback, dribbled around Olympic keeper Angelo Konstantinou, and calmly brought up the first goal of the game.

Olympic quickly regained their composure, and over the next hour both sides slugged it out in exciting fashion. "I thought they played better with ten men," said Monaro caretaker-coach Andrew Monterosso. "They attacked more. It's always the case I suppose when you're a man down and 1-0 down."

An Interview with peter Hader Part II

CSN: What was it like playing over there?

PH: Its been a really good experience playing over there. Like in Holland its all one- or two-touch, very structured, whilst in England in the lower leagues its more physical.

The service of the ball during the games was a lot better than here and through this I have improved my finishing, especially in the air.

The defenders are more like the Belconnens. Some teams here are weak in the air at the back, but all those over there were solid defensively. They were really physically tough.

Overall, it was a really good experience. It was just really frustrating in the end as I couldn't get a clearance. I'm having visa problems, but hopefully this will be solved soon and I can go back over there.

CSN: What is the future for you?

PH: My aim is now to get fit. I have been away for a little while and fitness is the main priority. Hopefully I'll get into Cosmos next season or the following season - it's a long term plan.

Train very hard, get some National League experience and then head back overseas in a few years and see what happens.

But despite applying sustained pressure, Olympic were unable to breach the Monaro defence, with Paul Macor and John Nelson later receiving praise from Monterosso for outstanding performances at the back.

Midfielder Joe Campagna picked up Monaro's second goal just 3 minutes before the final whistle, when Olympic were caught on the break after another attacking foray had broken down.

The win takes Monaro to within one point of league leaders Belconnen United, and was particularly enjoyable to Monterosso coming so soon after their unlucky Federation Cup elimination mid-week. "From Wednesday night the boys improved 100%, they got stuck more into the game today," the Monaro coach said. Monterosso named midfielder John Rakic as "probably the best on the park."

JUVENTUS OVERCOME QUEANBEYAN FIGHTBACK

At Riverside Stadium in Queanbeyan, Queanbeyan City Lions moved closer to their first win when they went down 4-3 to Gungahlin Juventus. Cosmos player, Danny Burt, has made a lot of difference to the team.

Goalscorers for Juventus were a pair John Glass and one each to Josip Zamora and George Cattanach. Josip's brother, Oscar, also missed a penalty. On the other side Frane Pratazina scored the first and Goran Veljanovski netted the other two.

Juventus led 4-1 after one half, but Queanbeyan scored immediately after the break.

I definitely want to get back over. Pretty much in Australia it is not professional enough yet. You can live on it, but you can't very much plan a future on it.

Over there they pay you well. Guys in our Dagenham and Redbridge were as part-time earning up to UK£800 per week.

Many thanks to Peter for his time to give us his thoughts and experiences on playing overseas. Soon, CSN hopes to have a chat with Shane Lyons who has just returned from a spell at Coventry City and in Portugal.

Deakin are a very young team with a number of players who have great talent. One hopes that the change of coach won't cause any problems for them.

On the brighter side, it is good to see that Majura Oval is finally being used this season. Gungahlin Juventus have decided to make Majura their second home with Jamison Oval, the other.

Majura Oval used to be the headquarters for both Canberra City and Olympic over the last so many years, but it has layed dormant until now.

The oval has not been used for any other sport since the cricket season ended and CSN has heard that a lot of work has been put into making it one of the better surfaces in Canberra.

Finally, an early reminder of the ACT v Wollongong game on Monday June 14th in Wollongong. Details to follow next week.

CANBERRA SOCCER NEWS PREDICTIONS FOR ROUND 6

Match of the Round

Capital City Suns v Weston Creek Royals
Sun May 23 – O'Connor Oval

Both teams had a rest last week and nboth will have key players returning – Shane Lyons for Suns and Manuel Sermano for Weston. Great game.

PICK: DRAW

Belconnen United v Canberra Olympic
Sun May 23 – Hawker Oval
One team on the slide, one recovering from an early bad start. Last weekend showed this continuing and Bels will need to play well to win. Olympic will miss Mazis and Giampaolo both overseas.

PICK: OLYMPIC

Gungahlin Juventus v Burns Club
Sun May 23 – Majura Oval
Juventus has improved of late and are starting to see results, now that their Academy players are back. Burns will fight until the end.

PICK: JUVENTUS

Canberra Deakin v Queanbeyan City Lions
Sun May 23 – Deakin Oval
How will Deakin react to their coach being sacked? Will the players lift, or will they wilt against the ever improving Queanbeyan?

PICK: DRAW

Monaro v Uni of Canberra
Sun May 23 – Riverside Stadium
Uni have been hot and cold of late and they'll need to turn it on against Monaro, full of talent.

PICK: MONARO

Premier League Division 1:

Burns Club v Capital City Suns

0-4 4-1 0-2

Uni of Canberra v Canberra Deakin

0-3 2-1 4-4

Queanbeyan City v Gungahlin Juventus

3-5 0-18 0-6

Weston Creek v Belconnen United

1-1 1-1 1-4

Canberra Olympic v Monaro

0-2 2-3 2-1

Premier League Division 2:

1st Grade: Belwest Foxes 0 O'Connor Knights 2, Tuggeranong 4 Sabres FC 1, White Eagles 0 Cooma 1

Res Grade: Belwest Foxes 0 O'Connor Knights 2, Tuggeranong 6 Sabres FC 1, White Eagles 3 Cooma 1

State League:

Division 1: Uni of Canberra 1 Belconnen 3, Southern Spirit 2 ANU 9, Valley Blues 2 Canberra City 2, Ginninderra 5 Burns 0

Division 2: Uni of Canberra 0 Belconnen 4, Tuggeranong 3 ANU 5, Valley Blues 1 Canberra City 2, Ginninderra 2 Burns 3, Belwest Foxes 6 Juventus 5

Division 3: Harmonie 2 Uni of Canberra 2 0, Valley Blues 3 ANU 2, Canberra City 2 Belconnen 5, Uni of Canberra 1 3

Tuggeranong 2

Division 4: ANU 2 6 Weston Creek 3, Valley Blues 1 ANU 1 3, Uni of Canberra 1 2 Burns 1, Harmonie 3 Uni of Canberra 2 1 Masters: Canberra City 5 ANU 2, Belwest 4 Uni of Canberra 4, Belconnen 2 White Eagles 4, Kambah Old Boys 4 St Francis 3, Tuggeranong 7 Valley Blues 0

Youth: Southern Spirit 2 Belconnen 6, Tuggeranong 1 Radford 0, Belwest 3 Belsouth 2

WIN TV Federation Cup

Final:

Canberra Olympic 6 Canberra Deakin 2
3rd Playoff:
Monaro 2 Belconnen United 1

Premier League Division 2:

1st Grade: Sabres FC 2 Belwest Foxes 6, Cooma 4 Tuggeranong United 2, ANU 2 White Eagles 0

Res Grade: Sabres FC 0 Belwest Foxes 1, Cooma 0 Tuggeranong United 6, ANU 2 White Eagles 2

State League:

Division 1: Canberra City 3 Ginninderra 5, ANU 3 Valley Blues 2, Monaro 4 Uni of Canberra 1

Division 2: Canberra City 0 Ginninderra 0, ANU 10 Valley Blues 0, Belconnen 4 Tuggeranong 1, Burns Club 3 Belwest 3

Division 3: Weston Creek 7 Uni of Canberra 1, Fyshwick 0 Harmonie 8, Tuggeranong 1 Valley Blues 4, ANU 3 Canberra City 0

Division 4: ANU 2 1 Uni of Canberra 2 0, Weston Creek 2 Uni of Canberra 1 2, Fyshwick 0 Harmonie 1, Burns Club 7 Valley Blues 0

Masters: Valley blues 0 Belconnen 8, White Eagles 0 Belwest 3 (fft), Canberra Deakin 7 ANU 3; Kambah Old Boys 7

ANU 4, Canberra Deakin 1 Uni of Canberra 3, Belwest 2 Belconnen 2, Tuggeranong 1 Kambah Rovers 3, Canberra City 3 White Eagles 0
Youth: Belconnen United 2 Belsouth 0, Belwest 3 Radford 0, Tuggeranong 6 Southern Spirit 1